

Message Text

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45

ACTION EA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EAE-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 INRE-00 USIE-00

CIAE-00 PM-03 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01

PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 OMB-01 AID-05 ACDA-05 /061 W

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O 291150Z JUL 75

FM AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 8583

INFO SECDEF WASHDC IMMEDIATE

CINCPAC HONOLULU HI IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE

COMUSMACHTAI BKK THAI

C O N F I D E N T I A L BANGKOK 15368

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MPOL, MARR, MASS, TH

SUBJECT: RLAF T-28S IN THAILAND

1. PRACHATIPATAI NEWSPAPER REPORTED TODAY THAT 14 LAO AIR FORCE T-28S ARE PARKED AT THE USAF FACILITY AT UDORN RTAFB AND "AMERICAN MILITARY AUTHORITIES ARE MAKING PREPARATIONS TO SPRAY THOSE PLANES AND CHANGE THEIR COLOR." IT MIGHT BE, SAID THE NEWSPAPER, THAT THE AMERICANS INTEND TO TURN THESE PLANES OVER TO THE THAI MILITARY. THE ARTICLE NOTED THAT BOTH DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER PRAMAN ADIREKSAN AND FOREIGN MINISTER CHATCHAI CHUNHAWAN RECENTLY TOLD NEWSMEN THAT THERE WERE NO LAO PLANES IN THAILAND.

2. WE HAVE RECEIVED PRESS QUERIES ABOUT THOSE AIRCRAFT AND PROPOSE THE FOLLOWING ANSWERS TO THOSE QUESTIONS.

Q: HOW MANY T-28S OF THE LAO AIR FORCE ARE AT UDORN?

A: FOURTEEN.

Q: HOW DID THEY GET THERE?

A: THEY WERE ASSIGNED TO THE TRAINING SCHOOL FOR RLAF PILOTS FORMERLY CONDUCTED AT UDORN BY THE U.S. AIR FORCE.

Q: WILL THEY BE RETURNED TO THE RLAF?

A: I HAVE NOTHING FOR YOU ON THAT AT THIS TIME. LIMITED

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PREVENTIVE MAINTENANCE IS BEING PERFORMED TO KEEP THEM IN

FLYABLE CONDITION. THIS MAINTENANCE INCLUDES MASKING OF
ENGINE AREAS AND TAPING OF ACCESS DOORS TO PROTECT AGAINST RUST.
WHITEHOUSE

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NNN

Message Attributes

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